

1972



BOROUGH OF TIVERTON

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health and
Chief Public Health Inspector

BOROUGH OF TIVERTON

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1972

Part-time Medical Officer of Health
G. NICHOLSON, M.D., F.R.C.S., M.F.C.M.

Chief Public Health Inspector
ROBERT F. COLDHAM, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector
GRAHAM A. WISEMAN, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk/Shorthand Typist
Mrs. D. TEDDER.

Rodent Operative
Mr. A. G. WATTS (until 5.9.72)
Mr. H. WHITTAKER (from 18.9.72)

The Chairman of the Health Committee
for the year 1972 was:-

Alderman C. S. SKINNER.



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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH TO THE
BOROUGH OF TIVERTON

1st January to 31st December, 1972

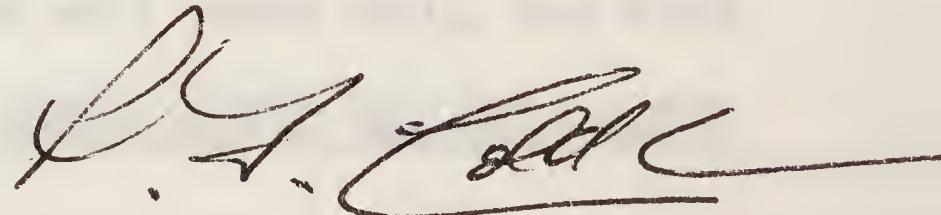
Public Health Department,
2 St. Peter Street,
Tiverton, Devon.

April, 1973.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with deep regret that I report the death of Doctor George Nicholson, M.D., F.R.C.S., D.P.H., M.F.C.M., who was the Medical Officer of Health to the Tiverton Borough Council from 1927 until his death on 10th January, 1973.

At the time of writing this report we are without a Medical Officer of Health and Doctor Nicholson's part of the Annual Report has been compiled by this department, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Exeter and Mid Devon Hospitals Management Committee, the Devon County Council Clinic and all who co-operated to enable us to produce the report in the manner prescribed by Dr. Nicholson during his 45 years of invaluable service to the Borough.



ROBERT F. COLDHAM
Chief Public Health Inspector.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE AREA

Population estimated mid-year 1972	15,860
Domestic properties as at 1st April 1972 .	5,427
Rateable Value	£638,920
Estimated Penny Rate Product	6,032
Area of Borough - acres	17,680.

BIRTHS AND INFANT MORTALITY

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	211	113	98
Illegitimate	18	8	10
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	229	121	108
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Live births per 1,000 home population (crude rate)			14.4
Area comparability factor			1.07
Local adjusted rate			15.4
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate			1.04
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births	-		8

STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2	-	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births - 9.

TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	213	113	100
Illegitimate	18	8	10
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	231	121	110
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

INFANT MORTALITY RATE (Deaths under 1 year)

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	5	-	5
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	—	—	—
	6	-	6
	—	—	—

Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	- 17
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births	- 14
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	- 56

NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE

Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	- 4
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EARLY NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE

Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births	- 4
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PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE

Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and still births	- 13
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DEATH RATES, ETC. - all ages

Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	- 14.6
Area comparability factor	- .84
Local adjusted rate	- 12.3
Ratio of local adjusted rate	- 1.01

DEATHS - all ages

Males: 109 Females: 123 Total: 232.

CAUSES OF DEATHS 1972

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	2	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	5	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	8	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus		1
Leukaemia	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	4	2
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	1	-
Diabetes Mellitus	1	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System	2	3
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	37	36
Other Forms of Heart Disease	2	2
Cerebrovascular Disease	15	33
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	5	2
Pneumonia	7	12
Bronchitis and Emphysema	7	4
Asthma	-	1
Peptic Ulcer	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	-
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	2	2
Congenital Anomalies	-	2
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	2	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	-
All other Accidents	1	5
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total all causes:	109	123
	<hr/>	<hr/>

It is of interest to note that the average age of death recorded during the year was 74 years and 2 months.

DEATHS FROM CANCER DURING 1972

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Oesophagus	2	-
Stomach	3	1
Intestine	5	5
Larynx	1	-
Lung Bronchus	8	2
Breast		6
Uterus		1
Other Sites	5	2
Leukaemia	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	24	18
	<hr/>	<hr/>

CANCER DEATHS 1952 - 1972

		Brought Forward:	231
Adrenal	-	Oesophagus	19
Antrum	1	Ovary	5
Bile Duct	-	Pancreas	14
Bladder	7	Peritonei	5
Bowels	22	Pharynx	2
Brain	-	Prostate	19
Breast	55	Rectum	7
Bronchus	97	Stomach	93
Face	1	Testis	1
Gall Bladder	5	Throat	2
Intestine	23	Thyroid Gland	1
Kidney	2	Tongue	-
Larynx	3	Tonsil	1
Leg	1	Uterus	25
Liver	1	Vulva	-
Leukaemia	11	Vagina	-
Melanoma	1	Uretha	-
Maxilla	1	Lymphonatosis	4
Mouth	-	Other Sites	156
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	231		585
	<hr/>		<hr/>

Total Cancer Deaths 585

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. Hospital Services

The following report has been received from Mr. P. Le Fleming, M.A., F.H.A., Group Secretary to the Exeter and Mid-Devon Hospital Management Committee:-

"The three Tiverton Hospitals have continued to provide a wide range of services for the Tiverton area, including General Medical, General Surgical and Gynaecological facilities, as well as the Maternity Unit at the District Hospital and Geriatric facilities at the Belmont Hospital. The level of activity in all the hospitals was more than maintained throughout 1972, with a total of 2,102 patients discharged following in-patient treatment, including 1,737 from the Tiverton and District Hospital. There were also 400 live births in the Maternity Unit at this hospital. Out-patient Clinics were attended by 4,564 new patients, and 4,293 new patients received treatment in the Casualty Department. During the course of the year the total out-patient attendances were 9,751, and 8,912 in the Casualty Department.

"The Regional Hospital Board recognises the valuable services provided by the Casualty Department at the Tiverton and District Hospital, and this unit has now been classified as an interim Accident and Emergency Centre providing valuable supporting services to the main Accident and Emergency Department in Exeter. The Regional Board has also been pursuing preliminary planning for the re-development of the hospital services in Tiverton on the Belmont Hospital site where it seems likely that the first stage will include the provision of new ward accommodation for the geriatric patients and also a Day Hospital where these elderly patients can receive assessment and treatment without admission to hospital."

2. Health Centre

During the year the Devon County Council made progress with the opening of the new Health Clinic to be provided in the Phoenix Lane area.

3. Domiciliary Midwifery

We have two district midwives. We are fortunate to have a M.R.C.O.G. resident in the town who can be called upon in difficult cases, and also a D.R.C.O.G.

4. Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory is situated in Church Lane, Heavitree, Exeter and full use was made of their facilities.

5. Health Education

a. Smoking

Progress is being made in discouraging smoking among the general public.

b. Venereal Disease

No action is taken on V.D. as the incidence is very low and from outside sources.

6. Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers

None in the area.

7. Ambulance Facilities

Four ambulances operate in the District, three are centred in Tiverton and the other in Cullompton.

8. Clinics and Treatment Centres

Ophthalmic Clinic

Third Monday each month all day. Second Tuesday each month afternoon only.

Speech Therapy Clinic

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings by appointment with Mrs. J. Worby, Speech Therapist.

8. Clinics and Treatment Centres - continued

Child Health Clinic

Every Wednesday 2 - 4 p.m.

School Dental Service

Emergency treatment - Fridays 9 - 9.30 a.m. and by appointment.
Orthodontic treatment by Mr. Burnett first Friday in month.

Chiropody Clinic

Monday and Tuesdays by appointment and some Fridays.

Hearing Assessment Clinic

Every third Tuesday in alternate months.

Ante Natal Clinic

Thursday and Friday afternoons - 2.15 - 4.15 p.m.

Cervical Cytology

Twice monthly on Thursday evenings by appointment.

Home Help Organisation

No longer based at the Tiverton Clinic, now comes under the Social Services Department, Hammetts Square.

Mass Radiography

This valuable service continues to function smoothly and pays fortnightly visits to the town on a Wednesday morning between 10 - 11 a.m. in the Market Place.

8. Clinics and Treatment Centres - continued

Child Welfare Centre

Attendance for 1972 as follows:-

Total infants attending for the first time	-	176
Total number of sessions held	-	51
No. of sessions held with Assistant County M.O.H.	-	20
No. of attendances during 1972 - infants		1,119
- 1 - 2 years old		221
- 2 - 5 years old		142.

The mothers and children have had supervision and advice both at the Welfare weekly by the Medical Officer and the Health Visitors, and in their homes by the Health Visitor. Where necessary the mothers were referred to their private doctor for treatment.

Orthopaedic Clinic

Held on 52 Tuesdays during the year. Mrs. D.A. Birch, Secretary, makes the appointments.

Number on Register at 31.1.72	-	234
Number on Register at 31.12.72	-	231
Sessions held	-	75
New cases	-	352
Admitted to hospital	-	63
Average weekly attendances	-	12
Number of attendances	-	1,200
Admissions:- Adults	-	435
School age	-	76
Under school age	-	85
		<hr/>
Total:		2,763
		<hr/>

8. Clinics and Treatment Centres - continued

Scheme for Notification to Medical Officer of Health
of Congenital Defects apparent at Birth

No action taken under this scheme at present.

Scheme for Provision of Incontinence Pads Service

No action taken. Need for this scheme in the Borough is not apparent.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Measles and
B.C.G. Immunisation

This is done by the family doctor or by the school medical service.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis)
Regulations, 1925

No action taken.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

1. Poliomyelitis

No case of this disease has occurred during the year.

2. Tuberculosis

There were three new cases during the year. No deaths were reported.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES - continued

Age Periods	Scarlet Fever		Measles	
	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	5	2
1 year	-	-	5	4
2 years	-	-	5	4
3 years	-	-	12	1
4 years	1	-	7	4
5 to 9 years	-	-	23	25
10 to 14 years	1	-	1	3
15 to 24 years	-	1	3	1
25 and over	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-

CONCLUSION

Fluoridation

The natural content of the Borough Water Supply is extremely low and no provision has yet been made to add fluoride artificially. The Council are uncommitted as to the value of this procedure.

Sewage Disposal

The new Sewage Disposal works has operated satisfactorily and an acceptable final effluent is being obtained. Sewage is disposed of free of charge to farmers in the Borough.

GEORGE NICHOLSON
Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Tiverton Borough Council

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit for your consideration my report for the year ended 31st December, 1972.

I must record my appreciation for the support I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, and from Doctor G. Nicholson, Medical Officer of Health, and to the other Officers of the Council for their co-operation during the year, and to my own staff for their continued interest and loyal support at all times.

On the following pages I detail many of the main functions carried out by this department during the year.

It is gratifying to note that standards generally in the town are high, especially with regard to food hygiene and that good progress has been made with unfit houses and we can now look forward to the removal of all our existing slums within the next two or three years.

It was notable that due to the Department of the Environment's intensive advertising campaign the public were made aware of the benefits of Improvement Grants and the figures show over a 100 per cent increase in grants given than in the previous year and it is hoped that this trend will continue.



ROBERT F. COLDHAM.

PUBLIC HEALTH

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Household and other refuse is collected weekly, except very rural parts which are fortnightly, by direct labour. Many shops and commercial premises have a twice weekly collection.

Disposal is by controlled tipping of household refuse and trade refuse is burnt on the tip.

Unwanted articles are collected on request. One disposal point is provided at the entrance to the Ashley Refuse tip for householders to dispose of rubbish.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The urban part of the Borough is sewered, and disposal is at a new sewerage disposal works at Holwell.

The rural dwellings of the Borough are provided with septic tanks, there only being a very few properties remaining with pail closets.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are seven public conveniences within the Borough now that the conveniences at the Town Hall have been closed. It is likely that the old toilets at The Works will stay open a little longer.

Work at the new public conveniences in the Phoenix Lane area was commenced during the year. These incorporate a separate compartment for the disabled.

It is regretted that hand washing facilities are available in only three of the seven conveniences.

NOISE ABATEMENT

During the year representations were made to several contractors using pneumatic road breakers without muffs and full co-operation was received by this informal action.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no Common Lodging Houses within the Borough.

TIVERTON AND DISTRICT SWIMMING POOL

The pool remained open during the year and provided a useful training ground for the youth of the district to learn to swim.

Several complaints were received of foot infections thought to have been caught at the swimming bath. Although foot baths are provided it is extremely difficult to maintain a high bactericidal content as they are immediately adjacent to the showers and take the run-off water. It is hoped that in the forthcoming months alterations can be made to reduce the risk of foot infections.

The water is heated and treated by pressure filtration and break point chlorination. The flow is regulated so that all the water passes through the plant every four hours.

Routine residual chlorine and pH tests were taken for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory, Exeter. Tests showed the water to be of a satisfactory degree of purity.

There were 92,791 admissions to the pool during 1972.

DISINFESTATION

The steam disinfecting plant at the Tiverton and District Hospital was used twice during the year. In addition five premises were disinfested by spraying with a suitable insecticide.

PEST DESTRUCTION

This Authority provides a free service for the treatment of rodents and pests to domestic premises and charges for treatment at business and agricultural premises. Two premises were treated successfully following complaints of pigeons and five premises were cleared of infestations of bats.

WASPS NESTS

Wasps nests are treated free of charge and 25 nests were destroyed.

H O U S I N G

Clearance Areas

1952 - 1971

384 properties were dealt with by Slum Clearance procedure.

1972

Number of Clearance Areas declared - 1 (Westexe South/Chapples Buildings).

Number of properties - 8.

Closing Orders

There were no Closing Orders made during the year.

Demolition Orders

There were no Demolition Orders made during the year.

Certificates of Disrepair

There were no Certificates of Disrepair issued during the year.

Housing Repairs

One Abatement Notice was served during the year.

Two properties were repaired following service of written informal notices.

Many other minor repairs were also attended to after an informal visit or telephone call to the owner.

Council Housing List

The number of applicants on the Council's Housing List at the end of 1972 was 406.

99 new tenancies were granted during the year.

189 new registrations were accepted during the year.

Improvement Grants

Two areas designated in the Town Plan for Residential Improvement were surveyed and all owners and occupiers were circulated with information as to the availability of grants to bring the properties up to standard.

The following tables show the results of the surveys:-

Chapel Street

Total number of dwellings: 130

	No.	Percen- tage
With all standard amenities	96	74
With some standard amenities	8	6
With no standard amenities	11	9
With improvement grants pending	7	5
In slum clearance programme	8	6

40 of the properties with all standard amenities received grants.

Barrington Street, Water Lane, Martins Lane

Total number of dwellings: 84

	No.	Percen- tage
With all standard amenities	43	51
With some standard amenities	15	18
With no standard amenities	24	29
With improvement grants pending	1	1
No access gained	1	1

15 of the properties with all standard amenities received grants.

Following the survey numerous requests were made for further particulars and this encouraging response resulted in a number of properties being improved. However, there will remain many people who do not wish to have the disturbance caused by the improvement work (mainly old people).

During 1972 the following table shows the number of grants dealt with:-

	No. of Properties	No. Completed
Standard Grants	20	18
Improvement Grants	42	37
Total all Grants	62	55

Qualification Certificates

Four Qualification Certificates were issued during the year.

W A T E R S U P P L Y

Practically the whole of the water supplied to the Borough was obtained from the North Devon Water Board's Allers Works.

The total quantity of water supplied to Tiverton Borough (including Cove, Withleigh and Chevithorne) in the 12 months ended 31st December, 1972 amounted to 288,619,000 gallons, an average daily consumption of 793,000 gallons with a peak of 950,000.

The total number of connections (domestic and trade) made during the year to the Company's mains in Tiverton District amounted to 225, making a total of 5,925 connections on the 31st December, 1972.

The following new mains have been laid in the Tiverton District during the year:-

	<u>yards</u>
6" diameter and less	- 4,166
12" and 20" diameter	- 4,652.

The majority of the dwellings within the Borough have a mains piped supply within the building. There are some 20 properties remaining sharing standpipes and there are 58 out-lying farms and dwellings with private supplies.

74 water samples were taken by the Public Health Department during the year from private and main supplies. Five unsatisfactory results were obtained from private supplies and advice given to the occupants regarding the treatment of the water by boiling, filtering or some other chemical means before drinking. Two of the properties which had contaminated private water supplies have since been connected to the North Devon Water Board mains.

ALLERS WORKS - WATER ANALYSIS

Chemical Results in Parts per Million of a typical sample

Colour	Nil
pH	8.2
Electrical Conductivity	200
Chlorine present as Chloride	15
Hardness: Total	55
Carbonate	15
Non-Carbonate	40
Nitrate Nitrogen	2.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	Nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.03
Metals (Iron, Zinc, Copper, Lead, Manganese, Cadmium)	absent
Aluminium	0.6
Turbidity	less than 1
Odour	faintly chlorinous
Free Carbon Dioxide	absent
Total Solids	95
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	30
Nitrate Nitrogen	absent
Permanganate Value	.50
Residual Chlorine	0.12
Residual Fluoride	absent.

REMARKS

This sample is clear and bright in appearance and is free from metals. The water is soft in character with a very moderate content of mineral and saline constituents. It is of a high standard of organic quality.

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic uses, from the aspect of chemical analysis.

The aforementioned figures have been provided by the courtesy of E.A. Robb, Dip. Civil Eng. A.R.T.C., Chief Engineer (South) to the North Devon Water Board.

FOOD AND DRUGS

Type of Premises	No. of Premises	Complying with Reg. 16	Reg. 19 Applies	Complying with Reg. 19
Multiple Stores	7	7	7	7
Dairies	5	5	5	5
Butchers	8	7	8	8
Bakers	8	8	8	8
Fishmongers	2	2	2	2
Fish and Chip Friers	5	5	5	5
Restaurants and Cafes	16	16	16	16
Grocers	17	16	17	17
Chemists	4	4	4	4
Greengrocers	7	7	7	7
Confectioners	15	15	15	15
Licensed Premises	22	22	22	22
Factory Canteens	6	6	6	6
Hospitals etc.	6	6	6	6
School Canteens	15	15	15	15
Boarding House Accm.	18	18	18	18
Bakehouses	2	2	2	2
Totals:	163	161	163	163

Food Hygiene

All the food premises except the hospitals were inspected at least once in the year and most were inspected more than this. One hospital kitchen was also inspected with the co-operation of the Area Secretary, (this is Crown Property over which we have no jurisdiction but the Ministry of Health suggested that a public health inspector be allowed to inspect and advise accordingly).

Frozen Food

One problem which has been noticed during the year is the over-loading of deep freeze display cabinets in shops. Each cabinet is marked with a loading line above which no frozen food must be kept. Any above this line will start to thaw affecting the quality of the product. This practice is therefore one to be discouraged and regular checks should be kept by shopkeepers to ensure that cabinets are not stocked above the load line and that any frozen product accidentally raised above the line by customer sorting is not left there for too long a period.

Market

The number of food stalls on the market has increased during the year and in addition to the normal Tuesday and Saturday market a small food market has become established on Fridays.

The main part of the interior of the pannier market has been decorated and hand washing facilities have been provided for stall-holders consisting of wash hand basins with a hot and cold water supply in a separate room.

Ice Cream

Regular ice cream samples for bacteriological examination were taken throughout the year, the results of which are shown in the table below:-

Grade	No. of Samples
1	19
2	6
3	2
4	4

Grade 1 = Satisfactory
Grade 2 = Fairly satisfactory
Grade 3 = Unsatisfactory
Grade 4 = Very unsatisfactory.

Premises from which other than grade 1 samples were taken were revisited and advised regarding the keeping of ice cream to prevent risk of contamination and the proper cleansing and sterilising of serving utensils. In all cases grade 1 samples were subsequently obtained.

The common causes of bad ice cream samples also apply generally to other food and utensils in food premises and show that great care needs to be taken in their storage, handling and cleansing.

Food Complaints

Complaint	Result
Tin of Meat alleged to have caused illness	Submitted to Public Health Laboratory - no bacterial growth.
Glass in butter	Found to be from complainant's own butter dish.
Bad Kippers	Public Analyst detected spoilage organisms. Warning letter sent to vendor.
Alleged foreign body in Lamb Chop	Upon investigation it was found to be a piece of lymph node or fat.
Mouldy Macaroni	Due to packet becoming damp. Source of dampness could not be found. Correspondence with and visit from representative of firm involved.
Bad Chicken	Blame not established due to length of time between purchase of chicken and receiving complaint. Firm has however changed wording on wrapper to give more precise handling advice.
Fish smelling strongly of ammonia	Blame not established due to length of time between purchase of fish and receiving complaint. Vendor visited and letter sent.

Complaint	Result
Mouldy Meat Pie	Blame difficult to establish due to small amount of pie received and lack of wrappings. Letter sent to manufacturer and vendor visited.
Nail in piece of Cake	Manufacturer's premises visited and legal proceedings instigated.
Bad Fish	Vendor visited and legal proceedings instigated.
Mouldy Pork Pie	No evidence of mould found but vendor advised regarding stock rotation.
Bad Fish	Blame not established due to length of time between purchase of fish and receiving complaint. Vendor visited and warned.
Bacon with off smell and taste	Not established as unfit. Vendor visited.

The 13 food complaints listed above were received from members of the public and were investigated by the department. In two cases, involving unfit fish and a nail in a piece of fruit cake, legal proceedings were instigated. All of the other cases were thoroughly investigated and warning letters sent where necessary.

Consumer Protection

During the year many inspections were made of supermarkets and general stores to ensure that only fresh food was sold. Representations were made to many food manufacturers, van salesmen and retailers regarding adequate stock rotation and proper coding systems.

It is gratifying to note that many of the larger companies are introducing "sell by" dates, and it is hoped that legislation will be made shortly applying this to all types of food.

Unsound Foods

The following foodstuffs were examined at retail foodshops and certificates given when they were voluntarily surrendered:-

	Tons	cwts.	lbs.
Tinned Meat	1	74	
Other Tinned Food	6	44	
Frozen Food	12	21	
Fresh Fish	1	56	
Miscellaneous	4	99	
 Total:	 1	 6	 70

All condemned foodstuffs are disposed of by burying on the Controlled Tip, chloride of lime being used if necessary.

Poultry Inspection

There is one poultry processing establishment in the Borough and regular visits were made to the premises during the year.

The number of birds processed and condemned during 1972 is as follows:-

No. Condemned	Percentage Condemned	Hens	Broilers	Capons	
5,821 (17,750 lbs.)	.782	85,005	608,895	50,037	743,937

SHOPS ACT

Inspection of shop premises during the year indicated that in the main the basic requirements of the Shops Act were met. There is however some confusion regarding the 'early closing day' provisions of the Act which states that, with few exceptions, all shops must close for at least one half day a week and the day of closing must be displayed in the shop window by the entrance. When the day has been fixed it cannot be changed for three months.

I N S P E C T I O N S E T C.

The following visits for inspection or re-inspection under various Acts have been made:-

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Dwelling Houses	182
Keeping of Animals	10
Offensive accumulations	26
Dust and effluvia	19
Drains and Sewers	264
Inns, Restaurants and Cinemas etc.	22
Verminous premises	5
Infectious diseases	14
Water supply	106
Swimming Pool	34
Refuse Tip	14
Means of Escape in Case of Fire	15

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

Miscellaneous	25
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HOUSING ACTS

Individual Unfit	6
Clearance	69
Improvement Grants	637
Qualification Certificates	16

FACTORIES ACT

Power	6
Non-power	1
Building Sites	4
Outworkers	4

CARAVAN SITES ACT 1960

Caravan Sites 40

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Hygiene Regulations/byelaws - Shops	248
Hygiene Regulations/byelaws - Stalls and Vehicles	122
Food Inspection and Condemnation	135
Ice Cream premises	50

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963 312

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT 1928 182

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

Rodents - Domestic premises	19
Business premises	30

Insects 33

EXPLOSIVES ACT 1875 16

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951 24

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963 12

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER 1957 36

INTERVIEWS WITH OWNERS, AGENTS, BUILDERS ETC. 170

Total: 2,908

RODENT CONTROL

Rodent Operative

During the year Mr. A. G. Watts resigned and Mr. H. Whittaker was appointed. He has a wide knowledge of rodent control and pest destruction and is thorough and conscientious in the performance of his duties proving to be an asset to the department.

Annual Report as required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

<u>Properties other than sewers</u>	<u>Non-Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
1. Number of properties in District	6,470	236
2. (a) Total number of properties, including nearby premises, inspected following notification	138	7
(b) Number infested by:-		
i. rats	86	6
ii. mice	19	1
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and mice for reasons other than notification	215	83
(b) Number infested by:-		
i. rats	20	13
ii. mice	2	2

Sewers

Two treatments of the sewers throughout the Borough were carried out in April and October with the following results:-

April

Total number of manholes	- 558
Number of manholes treated	- 64
Number of manholes showing takes	- 2

October

Number of manholes treated	- 62
Number of manholes showing takes	- 4.

Contracts

There are 14 concerns in the town which have contracts with the Council for the destruction of rodents. Visits to these premises vary in regularity from daily to once every six weeks, according to need.

Ashley Refuse Tip

Seven treatments to the tip were carried out. 28 bodies were recovered, and the total estimated kill amounted to 102.

Regular spraying was carried out to keep any fly infestations to a minimum.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Most of the offices and shops in the Borough were inspected under this Act during the year and any contraventions notified to the proprietor.

Insufficient heating in offices and shops resulted in several complaints from staff during the year and these were dealt with by the department. It is to be pointed out that the minimum temperature allowed is 16°C (60.8°F) within one hour of starting work. This is a legal minimum although in many cases a higher temperature may be necessary to achieve comfortable working conditions.

Registrations and General Inspections

	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a General Inspection during the year
Offices	13	55	32
Retail Shops	24	108	71
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	1	4	3
Catering establishments open to the public and canteens	3	15	8
Fuel Storage Depots	1	1	1
Totals:	42	183	115

Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises - 262.

Analysis of Contraventions Found and Rectified

Section		Number Found
4	Cleanliness	26
6	Temperature	27
7	Ventilation	16
8	Lighting	6
10	Washing Facilities	20
11	Supply of drinking water	14
12	Clothing accommodation	10
16	Floors, passages and stairs	18
17	Fencing exposed parts machinery	2
24	First Aid	21
	Other matters	22

The above contraventions are being dealt with informally by co-operation with the occupiers of the premises involved.

Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

Offices	-	319
Retail Shops	-	539
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	-	47
Catering Establishments open to the public	-	73
Fuel Storage Depots	-	15
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Total:		993

Males: 371

Females: 622.

F A C T O R I E S A C T 1 9 6 1

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act 1961

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to Health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	65	6	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	10	-	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	-	-	-

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel Making etc.	9	-	-	-	-	-
Cosaques, Christmas Stockings etc.	14	-	-	-	-	-
Total:	23	-	-	-	-	-

